

THE PACER

SPECIAL ISSUE

Reigning in UTM's future



■ Provost Tom Rakes named UTM's next chancellor by UT system President John Petersen yesterday in Martin. PAGE 2

Campus crime in Tennessee comes in lower



■ Theft and larceny take top spots at UTM.

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Seniors walk in the rain amid applause



■ Future graduates cherish UTM memories, practice for final walk.

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Rakes takes UTM helm

Will York
Managing Editor

To uproarious applause, UT system President John Petersen named Provost Thomas A. Rakes the next chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"He was not just the internal candidate, he was the best candidate," Petersen said.

And with that, community stakeholders, students, faculty, staff and university officials marked Rakes' promotion with a raucous ovation, signifying the culmination of a nearly nine-month search for the successor of UTM's current chancellor, Nick Dunagan. Dunagan will retire June 30 after serving as chancellor since 2001.

"In Tom Rakes, we are fortunate to have an individual who is known and respected on this campus, who understands the Martin mission and can move seamlessly into the leadership role," Petersen said. "It is this combination that makes Tom a unique and ideal choice for Martin at this important time."

Petersen said an understanding of the difference between the executive responsibilities of a chancellor and the managerial responsibilities of a provost set Rakes apart from the other two finalists for the position.

UTM's search committee sorted through more than 60 applications, interviewed four finalists and sent three recommendations to Petersen, who made the final choice.

Any of the three finalists would have been successful, Petersen said, but Rakes stood out among the others.

Petersen added that Rakes understands UTM's position in the larger University of Tennessee system, especially after the university's "fUTURE" campaign. That campaign aims to leverage the strengths of all UT campuses for the benefit of the institution as a whole.

"Every campus brings in a distinct but linked framework," Petersen said. "Dr. Rakes recognizes that."

Petersen said the decision to select Rakes as chancellor was one of the most important personnel decisions the university can encounter. He termed the selection process a "critical but



Dr. Tom Rakes makes a few remarks about what he hopes to achieve as the ninth chancellor of UTM. Among Rakes' top priorities are campus security and academic excellence.

vital task."

Petersen said, "This is a critical time in the continued growth and excellence of our Martin campus,"

And Petersen has faith in Rakes' leadership.

When Rakes takes the helm July 1 as UTM's ninth chancellor, his top priority will be to ensure security on campus, especially in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting rampage that left 33 dead. He told the crowd his second priority would be to "raise academic vigor."

Concerning his security, he said UTM needs to take on more steps to gage the university's readiness for disasters, including seminars and readiness drills. Rakes met with several Virginia Tech students in a Roanoke, Va., hospital after the shooting.

He also said under his leadership, the university would make more decisions based on strong data, in order to make decisions effectively and efficiently. As provost, Rakes has been known for his outreach to students, and he said the university will continue to have strong student-based values.

He said the hallmarks of student experience should be "listening, learning and leading."

But Rakes did not shy away from the university's challenges, saying, "We have some very ambitious capital projects and renovations. We have to overhaul our campus security and

expand our alumni base."

Rakes said he will meet regularly with outgoing Chancellor Dunagan before July 1 to ensure a smooth transition.

"I am pleased and so very honored to be selected as the next chancellor," Rakes said. "We have a tradition of excellence and a host of opportunities for growth, expanded research and outreach as a student-focused institution."

Rakes said UTM's atmosphere, people, international connections and partnerships were particularly attractive to him when considering whether to stay on at UTM as chancellor. And though he has served at UTM as the university's chief academic officer, he said he brings he has seen the roles of administration and management, which he sees

as an asset.

"I've seen a broader perspective. It's a different perspective on the chancellor side, and that is going to be exciting to deal with," Rakes said.

Jerald Ogg, UTM's interim vice chancellor for student affairs, led the campus chancellor search committee. He said Rakes was successful because he had experience as a university president at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, and none of the other candidates had similar experience. However, all three finalists had experience in the provost or vice chancellor of academic affairs positions.



Ogg

Dunagan thanks campus

Dear UT Martin Family:

As I wrap up 34 years of work at my alma mater, I cannot let the final semester end without saying thank you to current and former students, faculty and staff for the memories, opportunities and friendships through the years. This has not been a job, but a journey with so many good people.

Yes, I'll miss UT Martin, but I'll be forever grateful for the experience of being a part of this community of learners. It has indeed been an honor to be your Chancellor these past 6 1/2 years. Cathy and I are looking forward to leisurely strolls through the Quad, cheering on all the Skyhawk teams and feeling pride in future UT Martin student and faculty achievements. Good luck and thank you for all the opportunities



Dunagan

that being your chancellor has given me. I could never have done it without your support, your ideas, your hard work and your dedication. Cathy and I will never forget you.

~ Nick

“

This is a critical time in the continued growth and excellence of our Martin campus. Identifying and selecting the individual capable of leading UT Martin through this transition from the strong leadership and demand for excellence of Chancellor Dunagan has been a challenging but vital task.

- John Petersen

President, University of Tennessee”

"(Rakes') classroom teaching background was very important," he continued. "He has an understanding of both University of Tennessee and Board of Regents budgeting systems, which was a bonus."

Ogg added student evaluations of the candidates were heavily influential in the committee's decision.

"The forms reflected the committee's feelings to a tee," Ogg said.

Rakes was the only candidate from UTM to apply for the job.

Rakes will take on UTM's chancellorship for a base salary and additional benefits yet to be announced, pending approval by the UT Board of Trustees in June, said UT Director of Communications Gina Stafford.

Retiring Chancellor Nick Dunagan said Rakes is ideal to be his successor.

"I am excited about President Petersen's appointment of Tom

Rakes as UT Martin's next chancellor. Tom knows and appreciates this region," Dunagan said. "UT Martin is going to be in good hands."

Martin Mayor Randy Brundige also approved of Rakes' selection, saying, "I think it was good decision."

Rakes' nomination is subject to official approval by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees at their June meeting.

Rakes, 60, is married to Glenda Rakes, a UTM professor of education. They have two children, Patrick, 31, and Karee, 27.

Rakes joined UTM as vice chancellor for academic affairs and professor of education studies in May 2002. He was named UTM's provost in 2005.

He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Milligan College, a master's degree in reading from ETSU and a doctor of education from UTK.

Meek to address 2007 UTM spring graduates

Staff Reports

The UTM commencement will be May 12 with Anne Meek, UTM alumna, delivering the commencement address. Set for 11 a.m. in Elam Center, a record number of graduates has prompted, for the second consecutive year, the need for complimentary tickets to organize seating for the event.

"Commencement is always a special time, and I am extremely proud of our May graduates," said Dr. Nick Dunagan, UTM chancellor. "They represent our future, and that future looks very bright. This will be a bitter-sweet graduation because it will be my last one as UT Martin's chancellor."

Last fall, Dunagan announced plans to retire in June 2007 with 34 years of service at UTM.

Dunagan will preside over the exercises and confer degrees to 734 spring graduates. Dr. Paul Sharma, UT National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the processional marshals will be Dr. John Schommer, faculty senate president; Dr. Elaine Harriss, faculty senate vice president; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; and Lenora Solomons, vice chancellor for university advancement.

The UTM saxophone quartet will perform special music. Immediately following commencement, a reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse.

Meek, of Norfolk, Va., is the



Meek

daughter of Paul and Martha Meek. Paul Meek served as executive officer and chancellor of UTM from 1934-1967. Anne Meek received a bachelor's degree from UTM, and master's degree and doctorate from UT Knoxville. She is coordinator of Virginia State Action for Education Leadership Project, Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute at Virginia Commonwealth University. Also, she is consultant/adviser for the Old Dominion University Program for Research and Evaluation in Public Schools, Norfolk. Since 1998, she has served as vice president of Enterprise Assistance Inc., Norfolk, and CEPI Eastern Virginia representative, Richmond, Va.

Meek has been an Education Statistics Services Institute senior program specialist in Washington, D.C., Virginia Beach (Va.) City Public Schools assistant superintendent/special assistant/executive assistant, the Developmental Studies Center Child Development Project director of publications in Oakland, Calif., and a supervisor, principal and reading specialist.

Each graduate will receive up to six free tickets to admit his or her guests. Overflow seating with a video and audio feed of the ceremony will be provided in the fieldhouse for all guests without tickets. Graduates can get their tickets at the Grand Finale Senior Walk on May 2 and later that afternoon at the Student Commencement Practice in Elam Center. Tickets for

graduating students will remain available in the Office of Academic Records until 5 p.m., May 11.

A limited number of additional complimentary tickets will be available to graduates (up to an additional six tickets) and to faculty and staff and the general public (up to two per person), on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last, beginning May 3, in the Office of Academic Records in the first floor of the Administration Building. Any tickets not claimed by 5 p.m., May 11, will be distributed to the general public at a designated area outside Elam Center by 9 a.m. prior to the spring commencement ceremony, May 12.

Seniors celebrate big achievement

Heather Roland
News Editor

Wednesday held many meanings for graduating seniors as they attended the Grand Finale Celebration and Senior Walk. For some, it was simply a day of relief that their college career was ending. For others, it was a time to spend with college friends for one of the last times. However, for all, it was a day recognizing their achievement of graduating.

The celebration began at 12:30 p.m. with seniors registering and obtaining their commencement tickets. Soon after, lines began to form for the delicious meal, as well as to obtain extra tickets for commencement. Unfortunately, a long line became disappointed after extra tickets ran out by about 1 p.m.

During the meal, a number of door prizes were distributed among the senior class. One lucky winner, Jessica Johnson won the 7-day, 6-night vacation package. Others won t-shirts, golf equipment, coffee mugs and more.

Shortly after, graduating seniors lined up on the sidewalk behind Crisp Hall to walk for the last time as the senior class to Elam Center for graduation



ELIZABETH WATTS / The Pacer

Graduating seniors took their last walk across the quad as a class last Wednesday at the Grand Finale Celebration and Senior Walk, as they walked to Elam Center for graduation practice. Several seniors found this time to be a relief that they had finished their college careers, while others found this time to cherish with their friends they have made here at UTM.

practice. UTM professors, staff, classmates and friends lined the sidewalks, holding signs, throwing confetti and congratulating all seniors as they passed.

Graduating senior Richard Atlee said, "The Grand Finale Celebration and Senior Walk was a tremendous occasion

celebrating one of our biggest achievements—graduation."

Thanks to all of those who took part in making this an unforgettable event for upcoming graduates. Your generosity has implanted a distinct memory in our minds forever.

Graduation Information

Graduation commencement will take place at 11 a.m. on May 12 in Kathleen & Tom Elam Center.

All graduates should meet on the Pool Level of the Elam Center at 10:15 a.m. to ensure order during the ceremony.

All guests are required to have tickets to watch the ceremony. Those without tickets will be able to sit in a viewing area in the Skyhawk Fieldhouse.

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Despite drop in crimes, theft and larceny head the list

Will York
Managing Editor

Larcenies and thefts led crimes reported at UTM, despite an overall drop in campus crimes, according to a state report.

UTM experienced 157 criminal incidents in 2006, down 24 percent from the year before. There were 195 crimes reported in 2004.

Of the crimes committed at UTM in 2006, most, or 48, were larcenies or thefts. That represents a marginal increase over the previous year. There were 33 larcenies or thefts in 2004.

Campus crime information is released annually by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation as required by Tennessee law. This year's report was released April 30.

While most crime categories remained flat compared with 2005, the number of vandalism reports dropped 61 percent,

falling from 36 to 14. Liquor law violations fell from 46 to 26 in 2006.

Total assault offenses jumped from 13 to 18 in 2006. Most assaults at UTM were simple assaults, as opposed to aggravated assault or intimidation.

This year's reports revealed five incidents of bad check incidents, but there were none in 2005. Additionally, 2006 saw one forcible rape and one forced fondling, but there were no forced rapes in 2005.

Narcotics, motor vehicle theft and destruction of property were both down in 2006.

But fraud incidences jumped from one to four. Three of the four fraud crimes in 2006 were impersonation.

Crime at UTM also decreased in last year's report, despite increases in student enrollment.

Capt. Ray Coleman of UTM's Department of Public Safety attributes the downward trend in crime to proactive policing on

behalf of Public Safety officers and to students keeping a lookout for suspicious behavior.

"I think that we can attest much of this to the high quality of the folks who live at and work here at UT Martin," Coleman said. "We take care of each other. As long as we do that, I think our crime will remain low."

On campuses statewide, the TBI found a 1.4 percent drop in the number of campus crimes reported to the agency. There were 8,425 reported crimes on Tennessee's campuses.

The most significant drops statewide were a 32 percent



decrease in vehicle thefts and a 10.5 percent drop in drug offenses.

However, the report found an increase statewide in rapes and robberies. In 2006, there were 21 rapes, opposed to 16 in 2005, a 31.3 percent increase. Robber-

ies also jumped by more than 45 percent.

As is the case at UTM, the largest percentage of campus crimes were related to theft, with almost 35 percent of crimes being thefts.

Pentecost memorial service May 19

A memorial service for Max Pentecost is currently planned for 1 p.m., Saturday, May 19, at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin. A reception will follow the service.

Pentecost, 79, of Denver, Colo., died recently following a brief illness. He was long associated with UTM, holding positions in areas including Central Stores and Printing & Duplicating Services. His wife, the late Betty Pentecost, worked many years in the School of Education.

For additional information, contact the church at 587-9718.

Congratulations, 2007 Graduates!

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Jim Crow museum brings 'Hateful Things' to UTM

Laura Stark
Staff Writer

This week, Hateful Things, from Jim Crow Museum, will be on display in the Paul Meek Library.

The Jim Crow Museum was started by David Pilgrim, an African-American professor at

Ferris State University. It includes several archival items from the Jim Crow period (around 1820) and beyond, that depict African-Americans in stereotypical ways. Some may have viewed the Hateful Things video during the Civil Rights Conference or through the Harold Conner Scholars.

This is Hateful Things' first display in the Paul Meek Library. Teresa Woody, director of Minority Affairs, says "These are items that represent racial and social stereotypes that need to be confronted and examined."

This display is hoped to inspire discussion and be an edu-

cational experience. Hopes are that students take away from this exactly what they bring with them.

Richard Saunders, archivist at Paul Meek Library, says "It's always hard to recognize prejudice when you're looking in the mirror." The display is for students to see that racism

is real and just because it's not as bad as it was during the Jim Crow period, racism is still a problem, and not just among those who are black and white. "We can't get anywhere unless people change," said Saunders, who wants students to confront this problem and discuss how to make it go away.

Student Voice Studio recital features lots of local talent

Joseph Caldwell
Staff Writer

On Thursday evening, April 26, UTM's Department of Music held their Student Voice Studio Recital. Attendance was low, a sad state of affairs considering the talent that was displayed.

UTM has a number of beautiful voices in the voice studio of Dr. Amy Yeung. The participants were Erin Horton, Sara McLemore, Karen Langdon, Sarah Jenkins, Julie Baker, Heather Cheatham, Chris Buckner, Kimberly Kraft, Elizabeth Smith, Katy Patterson, Linzie Tedford, Cari Beauchamp, Sarah Bybee and Ashley Shinn. They sang pieces that ranged from light, fun songs – sometimes comedic, as Julie Baker sang about a green dog – to slow, passionate songs to sad songs.

The vocalists sang in five different languages: German, Spanish, French, English and Italian.

Some exhibited a lot of nervousness while others demonstrated more coolness and professionalism. All of them were accompanied by Delana Easley, an excellent pianist and the department's staff accompanist, while Dr. Fred Spano, assistant professor of music, accompanied Kraft and Jenkins in a closing duet.

"It was pretty good", said Brandon Smith, a lower-division Business Major. "I liked it better than I thought [I would]."

Overall, the quality of music was outstanding. I did not expect to hear that kind of music from fellow classmates, but I was thoroughly impressed. If you as a student have not yet, you are strongly encouraged to go to one of UTM's vocal recitals before you leave UTM. You, too, will be impressed.

If you recognized any of these students, congratulate them the next time you see them. Who knows – perhaps they will even sing for you.

Concert features circus, grace

Becca Wilkinson
Staff Writer

On Tuesday night, April 24, the UTM Concert Band and Wind Ensemble had their final concert of the year.

The concert band, which consists of many non-music majors, started off the evening with an up-tempo march followed by an old Irish lullaby. The concert band also played a piece that the composer wrote for his vision of flying.

Once the concert band was finished it was the Wind Ensemble's turn to take the stage. This ensemble is composed of many music majors and is

formed via auditions in the fall. The ensemble played a particular piece that was divided into six sections and lasted roughly 12 minutes. The final piece they played was a real "circus." The sound effects made you feel like you were really watching the elephants and poodles dancing, and the trapeze artists flying in the air.

As an encore, and to conclude the concert, the Wind Ensemble played an arrangement of "Amazing Grace" that was also played by the Virginia Tech band after the tragedy that occurred there on April 16.

Weekend box office results

Title	Weekend Gross	Total Gross
1. <i>Spider-Man 3</i>	\$148,000,000	\$148,000,000
2. <i>Disturbia</i>	\$5,720,000	\$59,883,000
3. <i>Fracture</i>	\$3,420,000	\$26,453,000
4. <i>The Invisible</i>	\$3,125,000	\$12,346,000
5. <i>Next</i>	\$2,768,000	\$11,835,000

Congratulations Alpha Delta Pi Graduates!



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Maggie Hodges
Jessica Manning
Robin McArthur
Carrie White
Stephanie Roberts

Lisa Sullivan
Lindsey Sutherland
Melaina Whitley
Nikki Carpenter
Jamie Harper
Amanda Phillips
Jennifer Roberts
Emily Clark



"We live for each other"



Our View

Editorial:

A new chapter in UTM's history

Yesterday, Dr. John Petersen announced that Dr. Tom Rakes will become the ninth UTM chancellor after Chancellor Dunagan retires on June 30. The announcement was met with joyous applause and cheers.

The Pacer is glad that the search committee and UT system recognized Rakes as the best candidate for the position.

We're confident that Rakes will lead UTM in a direction where students and academics come first.

Chancellor Dunagan has led UTM with the faculty and students' best interests at heart. While we're excited to imagine how far UTM will progress with Rakes at the helm, we also know that Chancellor Dunagan will be sorely missed once he retires.

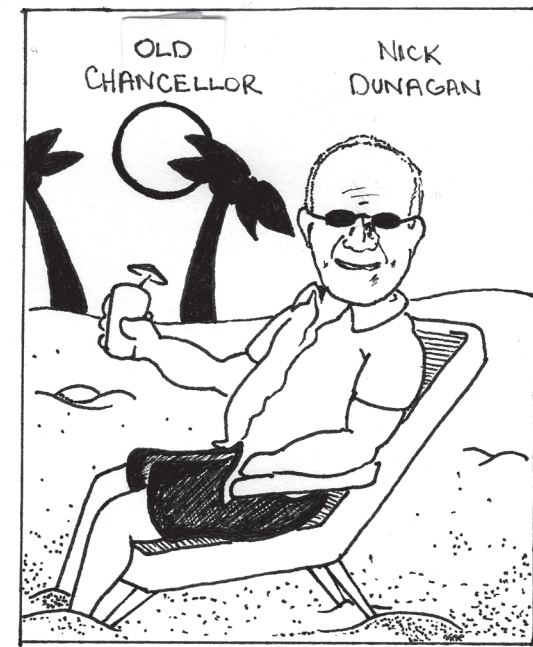
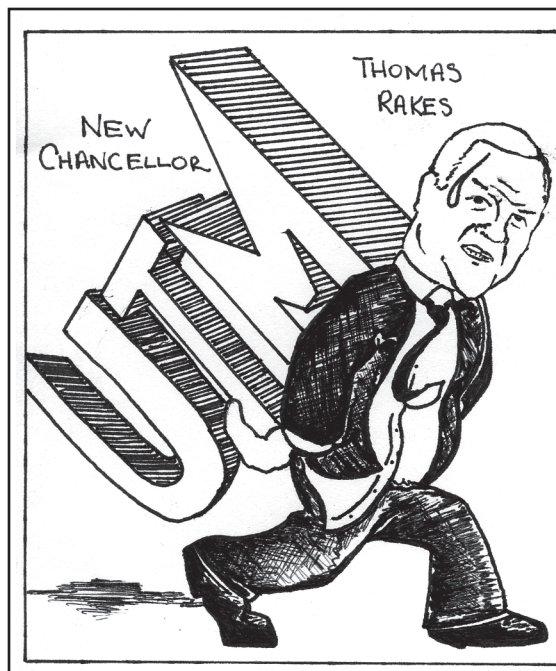
At the chancellor announcement, Rakes was excited to become the ninth chancellor. He laid out his goals and aspirations for the university while making a few jokes. This shows us that he was the best can-

didate for the position. UTM doesn't need or want a chancellor that rules with an iron fist. Rather, we want someone who leads with a smile.

Of course, everyone present, faculty and students, were elated when they heard Petersen announce that Rakes, the internal candidate, was given the position. The reception Rakes was given shows how much UTM thinks of their faculty and students.

The Pacer knows that all the final candidates would have been qualified for the job and any would have been a good choice. We know that with their expertise and views on higher education, they would make great chancellors at any college.

With the new appointment, UTM is starting a new chapter in its evolving life. As Rakes said in his speech yesterday, Chancellor Dunagan has left UTM with a wonderful legacy. We're confident that Rakes, as the new chancellor, will add to UTM's legacy.



Letters to the Editor

The Weakley County Habitat For Humanity (WCHFH) thanks all the UTM personnel who have supported the construction of the Habitat house in Greenfield. Special thanks go to several UTM groups: UTM Habitat Chapter with its sponsor Dr. John Schommer of the Mathematics Department, the Skyhawk cross country team, the football team, the rifle team, the volleyball team, the SHAPE

Club and University Scholars.

Their students have worked at least one Saturday since early December. The Chi Omega also provided Saturday lunches twice. WCHFH President Judge Tommy Moore said, "These groups have really made a difference on this house."

Of course, WCHFH also appreciates the Habitat storage trailer purchased by the UTM

Habitat Chapter, largely with money designated from All Sing a year ago. UTM alum artist Les Macdiarmid attractively decorated the exterior.

WCHFH wishes all students well during finals and throughout the summer.

Marvin Downing
Acting Secretary, WCHFH
Professor Emeritus of History

Remembering the orange and blue while wearing a cap and gown

As I prepare to leave UTM in the coming months, I can hardly believe how quickly time has gone by.

It seems like yesterday that I was moving into the dorm for the first time. The unfamiliar place and situation worried me at first. My anxiety would soon fade, however, upon meeting my roommate, who is still one of my best friends four years later. The many friendships I have built here have made my college experience what it is.

As a naturally quiet person I came to UTM to be a Communications major. It seemed like a strange choice but my passion for writing ultimately made it an easy one. An equally strong, if not stronger, passion



Brad Hurt
Sports Editor

for sports set me on the path to my dream career as a sports-writer.

Beginning as a staff writer my sophomore year, I worked my way up the ladder to my current position as *The Pacer* sports editor. As a staff writer I learned the basics of reporting and writing. I started slowly but soon gained the confidence I needed to advance my skills.

As the assistant sports editor last year, I helped Sports Editor Amy Eddings by covering volleyball, men's basketball and softball. Through these experiences I made valuable acquaintances and improved my skills as a reporter. This year I have added more memorable experiences and gained valuable knowledge as the sports editor that I will carry with me wherever I go.

Among these acquaintances was a person without whom my job would be extremely difficult. Sports Information Director Joe Lofaro has worked with me and has always done his best to make sure I have all the information I need. Along with his staff photographers,

Joe has contributed greatly to any success I have had here.

Among the other people I need to thank are my fellow staff members, especially our editorial leaders, Executive Editor Elizabeth Watts and Managing Editor Will York. Without their guidance and advice this year I would not be where I am today. Together we have shared laughs and good times as well as stressful Monday nights. The success and recognition we have achieved on an annual basis make the stress well worth it.

Most importantly, I must thank Tomi Parrish for always supporting and encouraging me. Along with Department Chair Robert Nanney and the

rest of the Communications faculty, she trained me to be a curious and effective journalist. The countless hours and immeasurable effort she puts into the everyday operations of *The Pacer* are evident in the quality product that hits the newsstands each week.

In closing I would like to encourage my fellow students to take advantage of every opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities and support Skyhawk athletics. Varsity athletics add flavor to the college experience and can leave you with treasured memories that will last a lifetime. So put on your orange and blue and cheer for your Skyhawks!

THE PACER

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The Pacer invites student organizations to submit press releases at least two weeks ahead of an event. We cannot guarantee the publication of any submitted letter, release or news story.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Story ideas or news tips may be e-mailed to pacer@utm.edu or presented at our weekly staff meetings, held at 5:15 p.m. every Tuesday during the semester. If you are unable to attend these meetings, please contact the Executive Editor to arrange a separate meeting.

The Pacer welcomes comments, criticisms or ideas that its readership may have. We encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor at 314 Gooch Hall, Martin, TN 38238, through e-mail at pacer@utm.edu or via our Web site at <http://pacer.utm.edu/write/>. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words. Letters must be signed and contain the name, major and hometown of the author, as well as contact information. All submissions will be edited for grammar, spelling and brevity. Publication preference will be given to letters of less than 250 words. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Columns or Guest Commentaries should be no longer than 750 words and will require a photo of the author. Publication is based on relevance and quality of the issue and publication is subject to the discretion of the Editorial Board

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